

Early Education Development Newsletters for all early years providers Autumn term 2018



Coming soon – The Revised QIP Framework 2018

To ensure that Leicester’s Quality Improvement Programme (QIP) continues to be reflective of current legislation, relevant topics and challenges that are present in the early year’s sector today, the EED team are undertaking an overhaul of the QIP Framework.

The revised framework will be an electronic tool, meaning that we can keep the information updated frequently, ensuring that providers have continued access to the latest and most relevant information. Changes to the framework will include an increase in sections, that are more focused and topic specific such as; safeguarding, inclusive practice, business support, healthy living etc. as well as links to supporting documents and relevant information. Alongside this review, is the reconfiguration and revision of the Q Cards Toolkit. All existing cards are being updated to ensure that they are current and meaningful. New cards are being created to reflect the needs of the workforce and as with the QIP Framework are being developed as an electronic tool.

The revised framework is scheduled to be launched at the autumn term Early Years Network on 31st October 2018. There will be an opportunity to familiarise providers with the tool and spend some time exploring how it can be applied to day to day practice.

Book your place at the EYFS Network to find out more! – See EYFS Network article for booking information.

Should you have any questions, please contact Kelly Mason. on 0116 454 4190.

Safeguarding – What you need to know!

Can’t find any articles on safeguarding in this newsletter?
Wondering what the latest updates may be?

Refer to the **Safeguarding Update Issue 4** coming soon from EED Team.

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Universal Credit Full Service Roll Out

Key information

Universal Credit (UC) replaces six current benefits: Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Support, Housing Benefit, Employment and Support Allowance, Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit.

UC is a benefit administered by the Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) for adults of working age (in or out of work) and aims to support people into work, remain in work and progress.

The roll out of UC will initially only apply for new claimants and those who have 'major changes in circumstance'. UC went live in Leicester on 13 June 2018.

The DWP has produced a helpful website which contains all the most up-to-date information about UC and can be found here: www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk

Main changes for claimant

- Make and manage claim online
- Single household payment
- Paid monthly
- Housing costs paid direct to tenant
- Claimant Commitment (Couples have separate agreements)

The Claimant Commitment is like a contract which sets out what the claimant has agreed to do in terms of preparing for work, looking for work and increasing their earnings if they are already in work. Failing to undertake activities in this Commitment will lead to sanctions i.e. the UC payment will be reduced.

Families that already have 3 or more children (born before 6 April 2017) are currently exempt from UC and will continue to claim 'legacy benefits' e.g. Tax Credits/Housing Benefit instead of UC (until Feb 2019).

Supporting claimants with problems

In other areas of the country where UC has already been rolled out, there have been reported problems that may have caused hardship to families. The DWP has summarised some of the challenges and the support it has in place:

Challenges	Support
Waiting period of first payment	Advance Payments
Making a claim and managing the claim is all on line	Free Assisted Digital Support (IT skills training), Wi-Fi and use of PC's
Payments are monthly (not fortnightly) into a bank account	Help to set up bank accounts and free Personal Budgeting Support
Housing costs (was Housing Benefit) not paid direct to landlord	Alternative Payment Arrangements (direct to landlord)
Arrears of rent likely to increase	Free Personal Budgeting Support and Alternative Payment Arrangements (direct to landlord)
Greater likelihood of failing into debt/crisis	Discretionary funding (limited funds)

The DWP has produced an online toolkit for staff working in organisations that may want to help families with UC issues. The toolkit can be found at www.gov.uk/guidance/universal-credit-toolkit-for-partner-organisations.

Key Dates - Funded Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) places

Month	Activity	Actual Dates
August 2018	Childminders to submit data for autumn estimate payments	Deadline 13 August 2018 – 23:59hrs
	Autumn Estimate Payments	From w/c 27 August 2018
	Portal opens for Autumn data for 8 weeks	From 30 August 2018
October 2018	All providers deadline to submit autumn HEADCOUNT data. *	29 October 23:59hrs
November 2018	<u>Childminders</u> to submit data for spring estimate payments	From 5 November 2018
December 2018	Adjustment Autumn Payments	w/c 3 December 2018
	Deadline for childminders to submit estimate data (spring)	10 December 2018 23:59hrs
	Portal Opens for Spring data for 10 weeks	From 21 December 2018
January 2019	Spring Estimate Payments	From w/c 7 January 2019
	Census data to be submitted. This is a mandatory requirement for all FEEE providers	31 January 2019 23:59hrs
	All providers deadline to submit spring HEADCOUNT data. *	18 February 2019 23:59hrs
March 2019	Childminders to submit data for summer estimate payment	From 11 March 2019
April 2019	Spring Adjustment Payments	From w/c 1 April 2019
	Deadline for childminders to submit estimate data (summer)	5 April 2019 23:59hrs
	Portal opens for Summer 19 for 7 weeks	From 18 April 2019
	Summer Estimate Payments	From w/c 22 April 2019
June 2019	All providers deadline to submit Summer HEADCOUNT data. *	7 June 2019 23:59hrs
July 2019	Summer Adjustment Payment	From w/c 8 July 2019

Free business support information and toolkits

It is essential for businesses to plan for long term sustainability and we encourage childcare providers to access and make use of the FREE support made available by the Department for Education (DfE).

Supporting early years providers to run sustainable businesses

www.gov.uk/government/publications/supporting-early-years-providers-to-run-sustainable-businesses

The support includes insights from successful early years providers and links to information and free sector-produced resources.

Early Years Business Zone

www.earlyyearsbusinesszone.org.uk

This is made available by NDNA with the support of DfE to help settings plan for long-term sustainability. The support includes three main toolkits - Business Appraisal, Financial Management and Staff Costs Calculator. It also includes useful business guidance and links to relevant free resources (e.g. Business Plan templates).

Business Smart for Childminders

www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/business-smart/business-planning

This is made available by PACEY with the support of DfE and it has been developed by childminders for childminders. The online toolkit is for new and established childminders to assess their business sustainability, and look at whether they could expand their provision of funded childcare.

Small Grants, Big Difference Funding – available through the Pre-school Learning Alliance

Early years settings can apply for a grant for up to the value of £2,000 to enhance the learning of children and families in their care.

Full details and the application form can be accessed via www.pre-school.org.uk/small-grants-big-difference.

Please note that we will not be able to help with any queries as this funding is not being administered by the local authority.

It is recommended that providers should read the guidelines and understand the various exclusions before making an application e.g. settings open for less than one year cannot apply and the funding is not intended to pay towards capital costs or day to day running costs.

Starting School 2019

Do you have, or know of any children that were born between **1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015?**

If the answer is **yes**, then it's time to apply for a primary school place for them to start full-time school in autumn 2019.

The deadline for applications is:

15 January 2019

You can apply online at:

www.leicester.gov.uk/admissions

Ofsted Document - Early Years Inspection: Myths

Ofsted has produced this document to confirm the facts about our early year's inspections and to dispel those myths that can sometimes result in unnecessary workload for registered child carers. It should be read alongside the [early years inspection handbook](#).

www.gov.uk/government/publications/inspecting-registered-early-years-providers-guidance-for-inspectors/early-years-inspections-myths

Ofsted have also released myth busting videos which answer the following questions:

- Does making a complaint impact on subsequent inspection?
- Is it possible to move up more than one grade?
- Is the SEF compulsory and does it determine the overall judgements?
- Can anyone get feedback at the end of the inspection?
- Do you offer inspectors refreshments?
- During inspection does the manager have to be available all the time?
- What types of paperwork do inspectors look at?
- Can Ofsted carry out an inspection without notice?
- What paperwork do inspectors look at?

View the [Ofsted Early Years Myths video clips on YouTube](#).

Notification to Ofsted to inform of changes to individuals

Providers can complete an EY3 form to notify Ofsted of changes to childminding assistants, household members or certain people in organisations.

Separate EY3 forms are now available for childminders, providers of childcare on domestic premises and childcare on non-domestic premises:

Link to: [Early years and childcare services: EY3 changes to individuals](#)

Government removes disqualification by association rules

Following consultation, the Department for Education has removed the rule banning early year's staff from working with children in non-domestic settings and schools because of who they live with. The changes will come into effect from September. Further information is outlined in the consultation response [Amending the childcare disqualification arrangements in schools and non-domestic registered settings](#) document (July 2018).



1000
TWEAKS
TO FEELING GREAT

1000 Tweaks to Feeling Great will be discussed at the EYFS Networking event on Wednesday 31 October 2018

1000 Tweaks aims to motivate people in Leicester to make small manageable changes to their lifestyle's that will make it easier for children to be healthier. Leicester City Council are calling on everyone to get involved in the campaign by making a pledge to make a small tweak to their lifestyle.

But what is a tweak?

A tweak is a small and easy change. It's something that costs little or nothing to do, you should be able to start doing it straight away and if you can't do it yourself it's not a tweak! It could be taking the stairs instead of the lift; or eating a piece of fruit instead of a packaged snack.

Get involved today by downloading a pledge card from www.leicester.gov.uk/1000tweaks and sharing your tweak with us at @ActiveLeicester using the hashtag #1000tweaks. Or find out more at the EYFS event on 31 October 2018.

**Last few places remaining
Autumn Term EYFS Network**

Date: Wednesday 31 October 2018
Registration at 9 am – Close 12.30 pm
Venue: Hansom Hall,
Adult Education College,
Belvoir Street, LE1 6QJ

Once again, we are holding one city-wide EYFS event where schools and early years providers will have the opportunity to be grouped, and network with settings in their cluster areas.

Taking on board feedback from previous events, the agenda this time, will be split into joint agenda items and a sector specific section of the agenda, with networking and market place opportunity in-between.

To book your place, please download a booking form from the following link and email it to:

EEDteam@leicester.gov.uk

<https://families.leicester.gov.uk/childcare-professionals/early-education-development/training-and-development/>

There is no charge for this event.

This event is aimed at EYFS leads, Early Years practitioners and Childminders.

Places are initially restricted to 2 places per school/setting.

We appreciate that not all providers can release themselves from settings in the working day therefore we plan to arrange an evening networking event as an alternative – details to be released soon.

Childcare Market Position Statement – 2018

Leicester City Council's Childcare Market position statement focuses on detailing geographical spread of existing 2, 3 and 4 year Funded Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) provision in the city. It supports the local authority to assess what types of childcare are available in clusters/ward areas and highlights areas where we have gaps in FEEE provision in the city.

The finding support the LA to shape the childcare market in a strategic way, supporting growth and channeling resources in areas of need, over the short and long term.

The document can be found at families.leicester.gov.uk/csa

Quality Forum – Autumn Term Safeguarding Children Competency Framework



This term's Forum will be introducing the **revised** Competency Framework.

This is a tool which helps you to strengthen your safeguarding responsibilities in a confident and competent way.

The Framework has been modified after feedback from the children's workforce stated that they found some of the competencies difficult to evidence.

If you would like to know more and an opportunity to share practice with other providers, book a place on one of the dates below:

- 9th October 9.30 – 11.30am – Fully booked
- 16th October 1.00 – 3.00pm – Fully booked
- 18th October 6.30 – 8.30pm – Fully booked

New Date

- 6th November 09:30 - 11:30
New Parks House, LE3 9RN

View the new [Safeguarding Competency Framework](#)

Revised Provider Agreement Terms and Conditions for the provision of FEEE places

The provider agreement (PA) has been revised in line with DfE updates to the local authority statutory guidance and model agreement and is currently awaiting LA leadership approval. You can therefore expect a request to sign up to the revised agreement and associated documents in the second half of the autumn term.

Please note that a new requirement is for providers to provide evidence of their admissions policy; therefore we ask if you can prepare now, by ensuring that you have a written admissions policy in place and up to date in order to be ready as part of your new submission of the PA.

You may find some useful guidance on creating or reviewing your admissions policy in the following links:

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/business-smart/childcare-funding/admissions-policy-guidance/>

<https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/business-sustainability/>